

**REGIONAL LABOR MARKET AREA 7
THIRD QUARTER 2003 EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES
SUBJECT TO THE LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW**

Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto,
Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Webster



The average quarterly employment for RLMA 7 during third quarter 2003 was 216,048, a decrease of 1.7% from the second quarter 2003, and a decrease of 0.5% from the same period in 2002. Employment increased in 11 of the 20 NAICS sectors from the second quarter 2003. The largest percentage increase of 4.1% was in manufacturing.

Average quarterly employment data for third quarter 2003, second quarter 2003, third quarter 2002, and the percent change for the major industry sectors is shown in the table "Average Quarterly Employment" on page 65. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in RLMA 7 with 38,826 employees, or 18.0% of total employment. Caddo was the leading parish with 115,830 employees, or 53.6% of total employment.

Total wages increased 2.0% from the same period in 2002, and decreased 3.6% from the second quarter 2003, for an average weekly wage of \$536.40. Caddo parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$580.31.

Average weekly wage data for each parish in RLMA 7 is listed in the table below. The average weekly wage data for all parishes within each NAICS sector is shown in the table "Regional Labor Market Area 7" beginning on page 68.

Parish	Avg. Wkly. Wage
Bienville	\$ 509.24
Bossier	496.28
Caddo	580.31
Claiborne	479.73
DeSoto	544.77
Lincoln	496.39
Natchitoches	445.75
Red River	448.53
Sabine	433.64
Webster	479.30

The number of reporting units in RLMA 7 for third quarter 2003 was 13,911.

Due to the conversion to NAICS, this data should not be compared to data in publications prior to first quarter 2001.

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MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT
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